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SENATOR SCHROCK: Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The Chair would recognize Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members. I have a question for Senator Schrock also.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Senator, I ask this out of ignorance. I wasn't prepared for this. But does this affect recyclers that are currently in operation now? Is there anything in here that affects them?

SENATOR SCHROCK: It should not change that portion of the program, Senator Cunningham.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Okay. And the grant...and can you explain again the grant money? What does the grant money do differently?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Not...it really doesn't change how the grant money is used. But we hope to channel it in more productive...to more productive projects and, you know, for the making of playground mats, it's been used in football fields, our highways. Asphalt, we think, is...mixing crumb rubber with asphalt we think is a great potential. It should make our highways last longer. Other states have been on board. I think Nebraska has kind of dug its feet on this. And I think the committee has been a little disappointed in our Department of Roads for not getting more on board, but they now seem to have a new enthusiasm for this and, hopefully, a lot of our tires can be processed into crumb rubber and used with asphalt. It provides...the roads seem to last longer, and so we're hoping they're going to use more crumb rubber in our asphalt.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: So, in essence, it should actually be a benefit to the recyclers that are out there making these products now.